GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1441
ANSWERED ON:02.08.2005
ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION SYSTEM
Kanodia Shri Mahesh Kumar;Owaisi Shri Asaduddin;Solanki Shri Bhupendrasinh Prabhatsinh

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has amended the Foreigners Act 1946 in order to legally bind all airlines and ships coming to India to comply with Advance Passenger Information System (APIS);

(b) if so, the details in this regard;

(c) whether there has been any resistance from any quarter against the replacement of visa on arrival by Advance Passenger Information System;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith the action taken thereon; and

(e) the name of the countries wherein APIS is in vogue?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SRIPRAKASH JAISWAL)

(a) & (b): A notification amending the Foreigners Order, 1948 was issued on 07.03.2005 to implement Advance Passenger Information System (APIS) from 01,10,2005 making it obligatory on the pilot of the aircraft/master of the vessel coming to India to provide prescribed information electronically about passengers on board to the immigration authorities in India within 15 minutes of taking off/leaving from the port outside India.

(c): No, Sir.

(d): Question does not arise.

(e): As per available information, APIS is in vogue in Australia, Canada, USA, New Zealand, Bahrain, Republic of Korea, China, Mexico, South Africa and Japan.